



Docket No.: 272618US40PCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/535,708

Applicants: Takehiro MORIYA, et al.

Filing Date: May 20, 2005

For: DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD,  
PROCESSOR THEREOF, PROGRAM THEREOF,  
AND RECORDING MEDIUM CONTAINING THE  
PROGRAM

Group Art Unit: 2819

Examiner: MAI, LAM T.

SIR:

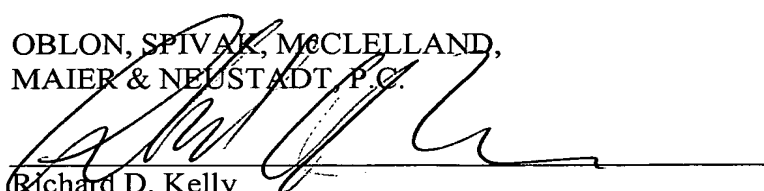
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**Response to Restriction Requirement**

Our credit card payment form in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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DOCKET NO: 272618US40PC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
TAKEHIRO MORIYA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: MAI, LAM T  
SERIAL NO: 10/535,708 :  
FILED: MAY 20, 2005 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2819  
FOR: DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING :  
METHOD, PROCESSOR THEREOF,  
PROGRAM THEREOF, AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM CONTAINING  
THE PROGRAM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction requirement of February 10, 2006, Applicants provisionally elect Group II, Claims 11-15, drawn to processing digital signal by use of tap number of prediction and only on usable samples without using samples preceding, classified in class 341, subclass 82, for further examination on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected invention.

Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding restriction requirement on the grounds that it has not been established that it be an undue burden to examine each of the noted inventions and claims together.

M.P.E.P. § 803 states the following:

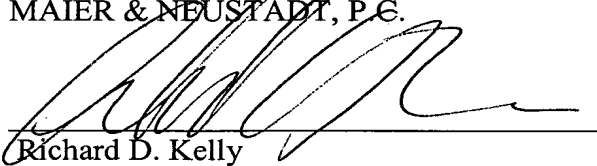
If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

In the present application, Claims 1-10 and 22-27 are directed to a method and a processor for processing a digital signal on a frame-wise basis, Claims 11-15 are directed to a digital signal processing method that performs filter or prediction processing of a digital signal on a frame-wise basis, and Claims 16-21 are directed to a digital signal processing method that is used in frame-wise coding of an original digital signal and performs processing by use of samples of a frame preceding or/and succeeding the frame concerned. Hence, it appears that these claims according to the present invention are part of an overlapping search area and that a search for Claims 11-15 would necessarily include a search directed to Claims 1-10, 22-27 and 16-21 as well. It is therefore believed that there is no undue burden on the Examiner to search all the claims under MPEP §803, and Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-27 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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